

# **Fish Assessment Tools Working Meeting Agenda**

August 22 & 27, 1996

## **1st hour: Introduction & Goals**

### **Introduction**

- Explain meeting format.
- This meeting is being held as a follow up to the meetings on June 21, 1996. In response to concerns expressed by agencies and stakeholders about the number and length of meetings held by CALFED, we have reduce the length of this meeting and expect this meeting to be more focussed and productive in a shorter period of time.
- This meeting is being held in response to agency and stakeholder interest in being integral to the development of the assessment process for fish resources.
- Decisions made by the group may be revisited and changed in the future if circumstances warrant, but decisions must be made for the Phase II process to move forward.
- Explain where we are at, and where we are going in the CALFED process

### **Goals for Today's Meeting**

1. Discuss, modify and if possible reach closure on the proposed species list.
2. Discuss, modify and if possible reach closure on the proposed assessment variable list for each species. If this takes too much time we will set a date for revisions and additions to be submitted by.

## **2nd hour: Summarize Assessment Methods**

- Explain handouts. Provide a brief summary of the assessment methods CALFED has currently identified as having potential for assessing impacts to fish.

## **3rd hour: Identify Process for Agency and Stakeholder involvement**

- We want fair application of assessment methods.
- We will not be making decisions about methods today, but the questions which must be answered are:

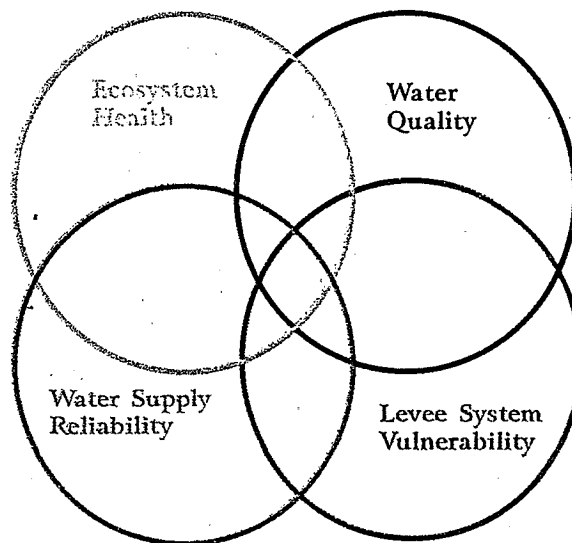
1. Which methods will work the best for each assessment variable for each species?
  2. Which methods will be used?
  3. How will the results of the application of these methods be used to measure relative differences between the alternatives at the programmatic level.
- We need to determine how you will be effectively involved in the CALFED process, but before we can discuss this, we need to review some of the constraints of the project.
    1. This is a programmatic document. Assessment methods must only be able to distinguish relative benefits and impacts between the alternatives at the programmatic level. Further analysis will be conducted in Phase III as part of the site specific environmental analysis.
    2. Impact analysis will be conducted between October and March. Assessment methods for use during Phase II must be available and usable during that time.
    3. A draft preferred alternative will be identified in April prior to the completion of the preliminary Administrative Draft in May.
  - Are there any others who should be participating in this process?
  - Summarize outcomes of today's meeting.
  - Schedule and plan next meeting.

**CALFED Bay-Delta Program  
Programmatic EIR/EIS  
Summary Schedule**

Impact Analysis	10/15/96 - 4/16/97
Identification of Preferred Alternative	by 5/9/97
Preliminary Administrative Draft	by 5/14/97
Administrative Draft	by 7/2/97
Public Draft	by 8/6/97
Public Review of Draft	9/2/97 - 11/26/97
Public Hearings on Draft	10/20/97 - 10/31/97
Final	by 7/2/98
Public Review of Final	7/29/98 - 10/1/98
ROD/NOD	11/20/98

## Problem Areas and Their Interrelationships

The CALFED alternatives are intended to provide a comprehensive solution to problems of a declining ecosystem, uncertain water supplies, decaying levees, and imperiled water quality. These problems are interrelated and reinforce one another; for example, the danger of a levee break poses a threat for both water quality and ecosystem survival. The Bay-Delta solution, likewise, must address each problem area simultaneously.



## Composition of Phase II Alternatives

Each alternative is made up of the common programs -- ecosystem restoration, water use efficiency, water quality, and levee system integrity -- and variable components for conveyance and storage.

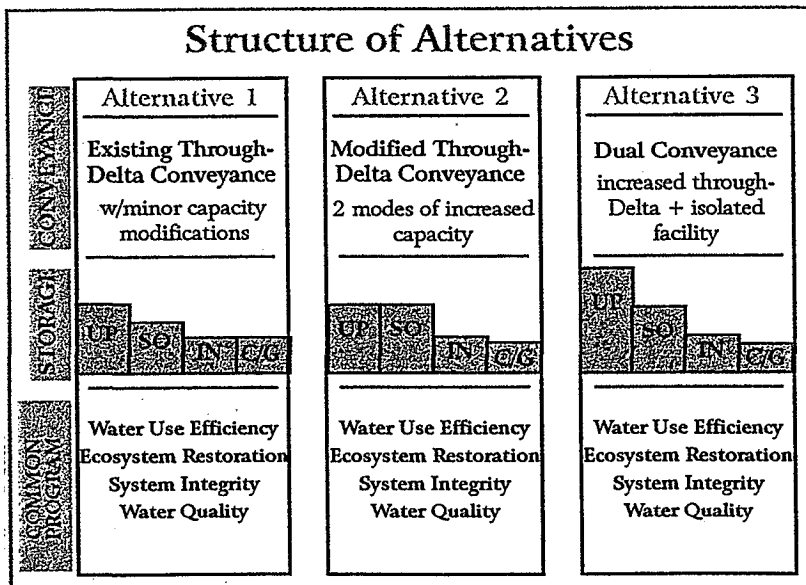
### Common Programs

- ecosystem restoration
- water use efficiency
- water quality
- levee system integrity

### Variable Components

- conveyance
  - existing through-Delta conveyance
  - modified through-Delta conveyance
  - modified through-Delta conveyance + isolated facility
- storage (combination of the following)
  - conjunctive use and groundwater banking
  - offstream surface storage upstream of the Delta, in-Delta, or south of the Delta

## Structure of Alternatives



Legend for the Table Above  
 UP: Upstream storage  
 SO: Storage south of the Delta  
 IN: In-Delta Storage  
 C/G: Conjunctive Use and Groundwater Banking